



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

A NEW FOSSIL POLYPORE

ARTHUR HOLLICK

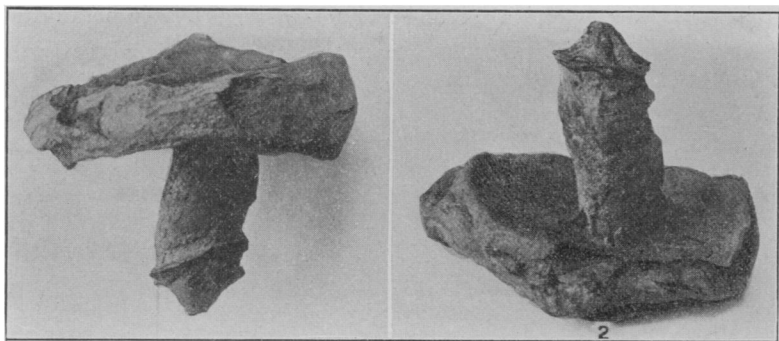
Pseudopolyporus carbonicus gen. et sp. nov.

Pileus about 4.4 cm. in diameter, approximately flat on top with uneven surface, slightly concave beneath with evenly and minutely roughened and pitted surface, margin rather abruptly inflexed. Stalk central or slightly eccentric, cylindrical, about 2.8 cm. in length and 1.2 cm. in diameter, with conical base. (*Figs. 1, 2.*)

Carboniferous. Elk Ridge Colliery, West Virginia.

Type in the Museum of the New York Botanical Garden.

This specimen was brought to light during a recent examination of a collection of carboniferous plants from West Virginia, included in the material deposited with the Garden by Columbia University in 1901. Neither the name of the collector nor the



FIGS. 1, 2. *Pseudopolyporus carbonicus*.

date of collection is recorded, the labels merely reading: "Fossil plants below Seam 3, Elk Ridge Colliery, Pocohontas Field, W. Va." This colliery is situated near Ennis, McDowell County, in the southern part of West Virginia.

The fossilizing medium is a highly ferruginous, fine-grained arenaceous shale, which has completely replaced the vegetable

tissue. In fact, the question may be raised whether the specimen is actually of organic origin. The occasional striking similarity of purely inorganic concretions to living organisms, both animal and vegetable, is well known; but in this instance the resemblance to a hymenomycetous fungus appears to be too perfect to be regarded as an accidental simulation.

It is apparently referable to the Polyporaceae, as indicated by the character of the under surface of the pileus, and may be compared with *Polyporus Polyporus* (Retz.) Murrill, so far as its nearest living relationship is concerned; but its antiquity should preclude a reference to the living genus *Polyporus*, and it is clearly different from any of the fossil forms described under that genus or under the fossil genus *Polyporites*, all of which are from the Tertiary or more recent geological horizons, except *Polyporites Bowmanni* Lindley and Hutton,* from the Carboniferous of England, which is generally considered by paleontologists to be a fish scale and not a fungus. In fact, the only fossil forms with which our specimen may be even remotely compared are *Hydnum argillae* Ludwig,† and *Agaricites Wardianus* Meschinelli,‡ both of them from Tertiary horizons.

The generic name is designed to indicate its probable botanical affinities and the specific name its geologic age.

NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN.

* Foss. Fl. Great Britain 1: 183, pl. 65, f. B1 and B2. 1831-33.

† "Fossile Pflanzen aus der Altesten Abtheilung der Rheinisch-Wetterauer Teritär-Formation." Palaeontog. 8: 57, pl. 8, f. 1, 1a-1c. 1859.

‡ "Di un Probabile Agaricino Miocenico." Atti Soc. Veneto-Trentina Sci. Nat. 12²: 312, pl. 8. 1891.